



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

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CHIEF DEPUTY

October 2, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
Maria Cruz
FROM: J. Tyler McCauley *FOR*
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – FIELDS
COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH SERVICES - EDDINGTON AND NAPA
GROUP HOMES**

We have completed a review of Eddington and Napa Group Homes (Group Home or Agency) operated by Fields Comprehensive Youth Services, Incorporated. Each Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Eddington and Napa Group Homes are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for boys ages 11-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Eddington Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child and three Probation children. Napa Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child and one Probation child.

Eddington and Napa Group Homes are located in San Bernardino County.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and

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interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. The Agency needs to address a few deficient areas.

Both Group Homes need to include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.

Eddington Group Home needs to clean the entry way.

Napa Group Home needs to re-surface or replace the bathtub, clean the tile and grout and clean and repair the area behind the toilet.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

JTM:DC:CC:jdh

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Chief Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Arby Fields, Executive Director, Fields Comprehensive Youth Services, Inc.
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Fields Comprehensive Youth Services
Eddington Group Home
Upland, CA 91786
License Number: 366407025
Rate Classification Level: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Eddington Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Generally, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. The common quarters are neat. However, there is dust in the entryway, including on the walls, ceiling, window and window covering.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, a DVD player, books and a computer with a variety of programs.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendation

- 1. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management clean the entryway.**

I. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement. The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current, comprehensive and include short and long term goals. However, input from the treatment team is not included in the development or implementation of the NSPs.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

2. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents****Comments:**

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights**Method of assessment – Interviews with children**

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

**Fields Comprehensive Youth Services
Napa Group Home
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701
License Number: 366402086
Rate Classification Level: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Napa Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Generally, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. The common quarters are neat. However, the bathtub is stained and there is mold and mildew on the tile and grout surrounding the bathtub. The area behind the toilet, including the wall and the baseboard is stained and deteriorated.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, a DVD player, books and a computer with a variety of programs.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management:

- a. Resurface or replace the bathtub.**
- b. Clean or re-caulk the tile and grout surrounding the bathtub.**
- c. Repair the area behind the toilet.**

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current, comprehensive and include short and long term goals. However, input from the treatment team is not included in the development or implementation of the NSPs.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

- 2. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.**

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.



YOUTH SERVICES INC.

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Fields Comprehensive Youth Services, Inc.
Eddington Group Home
1214 Eddington Street
Upland, California 91786
Telephone: 909-945-1318
License Number: 366407025
Rate Classification Level: 10

Corrective Action Plan

I. Facility and Environment

Recommendations

- 1. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management clean the entryway.**

Correction

- 1A. Entryway was cleaned thoroughly by client's with the assistance of the staff.**

Plan to ensure that the deficiency will not happen in the future:

Lead staff / Facility Mgrs will monitor the area(s) on a weekly basis, to ensure that entryway remains maintained.

II. Program Services

Recommendations

- 2. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.**

Correction

2A. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services Treatment Team which includes Facility Manager, Lead Staff, Administrator, LCSW, Social Worker, Probation Officer, and child will meet weekly to discuss individual client's needs and services as well as treatment goals.



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Plan to ensure that the deficiency will not occur in the future:

Implementation by Fields Comprehensive Treatment Team, which includes LCSW, Facility Therapist, Lead Staff, Administrator, and child. The team as well as the child will meet weekly to discuss short and long term treatment goals and how each goal will be measured assuring the child can realistically meet such goals. Each individual goal will be adjusted in needs and services plan as needed.



YOUTH SERVICES INC.

Fields Comprehensive Youth Services, Inc.
Napa Group Home
7062 Napa Ave
Rancho Cucamonga, California 91701
Telephone: 909-945-1318
License Number: 366402086
Rate Classification Level: 10

Corrective Action Plan

I. Facility and Environment

Recommendations:

- 1. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management**
 - A. resurface or replace the bathtub.**
 - B. Clean or re-caulk the tile and grout surrounding the bathtub.**
 - C. Repair the area behind the toilet**

1A. Corrections:

- A. Resurfaced entire bathtub.**
- B. The bathtub tile and grout has been cleaned and re-caulk.**
- C. The area behind the toilet has been repaired.**

Plan to ensure that the deficiency will not happen in the future:

Management will monitored and maintained on a weekly basis. Requisition for repairs or maintenance will be submitted if repairs are needed.

II. Program Services

Recommendation:

- 2. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services management include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.**

Correction::

- 2A. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services Treatment Team which includes the Facility Manager, Lead Staff, Administrator, LCSW, Social Worker, Probation Officer, and**



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child will meet weekly to discuss individual client's needs and services as well as treatment goals.

Plan to ensure that the deficiency will not occur in the future:

Implementation by Fields Comprehensive Treatment Team, which includes the LCSW, Facility Manager, Lead Staff, Administrator, and child. The team as well as the child will meet weekly to discuss short and long term treatment goals and how each goal will be measured assuring the child can realistically meet such goals. Each individual goal will be adjusted on needs and services plan as needed.



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Tina M. Blackshear, Administrator and Shirley Reed, Facility Manager are responsible for implementing the Corrective Action Plan.

Arby E. Fields, Executive Director is responsible for monitoring to ensure the Corrective Action Plan remain implemented.

Sincerely,

Tina M. Blackshear